## United States Patent [19] Timm et al. [54] PROCESS FOR PREPARING UNIFORMLY SIZED POLYMER PARTICLES BY SUSPENSION POLYMERIZATION OF VIBRATORILY EXCITED MONOMERS IN A GASEOUS OR LIQUID STREAM [75] Inventors: Edward E. Timm, Coleman; Douglas E. Leng, Midland, both of Mich. The Dow Chemical Company, [73] Assignee: Midland, Mich. [21] Appl. No.: 643,578 [22] Filed: Aug. 23, 1984 [51] Int. Cl.<sup>4</sup> ...... C08F 2/18 [52] U.S. Cl. ...... 526/88; 526/918; 526/920

[58] Field of Search ...... 526/88, 918, 920

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[56]

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## ABSTRACT

Spheroidal polymer beads having a uniform size are prepared by polymerizing uniformly sized monomer droplets formed by vibratory excitation of a laminar jet of monomeric material flowing in a gas phase. For example, a laminar jet of a monomer mixture comprising styrene, divinylbenzene and a polymerization initiator can be subjected to vibratory excitation and the resulting monomer droplets polymerized to yield copolymer beads having a narrow particle size range distribution. The copolymer beads can be employed in applications where beads having diameters of 5  $\mu m$  to 100  $\mu m$  are useful.

14 Claims, 3 Drawing Figures

